G R. S. 59] GPB—15,000—20 12-15

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1895-6
191 .
(Madurai)

File No. 188

Serial Nos.

Papers Filed.

*Month*_____

SUBJECT.

Archakship of the Sri Chennakesavaswami Temple at Belur

PREVIOUS REFERENCES LATER REFERENCES

MYSORE DEWAN'S OFFICE.

MUZRAI BRANCH.

OFFICE NOTE

Submitted for Orders

Archakship of the Belur Temple

Secretary's Office reference on Letter No. 604 dated 8th June 94 from Dy. Commr Hassan

SUBJECT

Lakshmi-kanta Bhatta offers to hold himself responsible for the proper performance of the temple duties by his son-in-law Srivanja Bhatta &c. for the safe custody of the Temple properties.

LAST REFERENCE.

At present, the two bavanad archakshans their turns by periods of one month. The D/Asst. proposes to change the period to one year & save the trouble caused to the Jewels & other Valuable properties of the Temple Changing hands very frequently at short intervals of one month.

Bangalore 29/1/96

From the records it is seen that Lakshmi-kanta Bhatta (One of the two bavanad Archaks of the Belur Temple) has not always been able to perform the Puja during his turn himself. [illegible]

ill-health & domestic
concerns. His request
is that his son-in-law.
Srinanja Bhatta may be
allowed to do Puja in
the temple whenever he
(Lakshmikanta Bhatta)
is unable & attend to the
duties himself.

There is nothing in
the records bearing upon
Srinanja Bhatta's qualification
to do Puja - But the temple
Shanbogue & Panapatteyar
& certain others have deposed
that Srinanja Bhatta gets
an allowance 1 Re-11-11
for Vasanta (?) at the
time of the Car festival,
And that for the past
7 or 8 years, he has been in Puja
occasionally doing in
the Temple whenever Dittar
of the bara vara Archaka,
Shd be absent, & has also
been assisting his father-in-l
Lakshmikanta Bhatta in

Gen. 31]

534

1895

From

The Director, Kaisar-i-Hind

To

The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore

Dated 8th
Despatched 11th } January 1896.
Received

General No. 604
No. 26 G

Enclosure No. V. Papers

Submitting for orders vernacular papers ending with General Assistant Commissioner's memo relating to the Archit Lakshminkanta Bhattar's desire to perform the Pooja in the Melkote Temple &c.

W. D.

W. D. to Govt. Mysore

15-1-96

To the Same No 80692-2-96

No. 604 on V.P. file
dcg

Deputy Commissioner's Office,
Hassan District.
Dated. Camp Belkeshpeir 8th January 96.

From,

A. Krishnaswamier Esqre
Deputy Commissioner,
Hassan District.

To

The Dewan Secretary
to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

In submitting herewith Bilur Taluk Amildar's report 84 with the General Assistant Commissioner's memo thereon, relating to Archik Lakshmi-Kanta Bhatta's turn to perform the Pooja in the Bilur Temple, I have the honor to state that Lakshmikanta-Bhatta being unable from ill-health and other reasons to enter upon his duty immediately, prays that his son-in-law, Sreeranga Bhatta, may act for him during his absence and on his responsibility. This may be permitted upon Lakshmikanta Bhatta executing a muchalika binding himself to be answerable

for

any irregularity, loss of jewels &c.
that may take place during the
time his Gumasta officiates. I have
to add in this connection that change
of hands once a month as is
now usual involving weighment
of jewels &c. is most troublesome.
As Lakshmikanta Bhatta cannot
now return to duty, Sumpatkumar
Bhatta may continue to officiate
for one year, he and Lakshmi-
kanta Bhatta thereafter taking
it by turns of one year each.-

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

From

To

The D/Asst Commr
Hassan

Dated 2-2-96

Despatched

Received

Enclosure No. 1 file VP

General No. 806 R
Muzrai F. No.

This Temple properties.

From the statements furnished by the Lambodar & other servants of the Temple before me in the Ver. records, it is presumed that the D/ has satisfied himself that Srinivasa Bhatta does possess the requisite qualifications to act as an Archak.

2. As regds the D/Asst's proposal in respect of the two Varagus of the Archaks being made to take up the Puja by turns of one year instead of one month as at present, the undersigned is to state that such an arrangement may be made if both the Archaks are willing to accept the change. The Ver. records are returned.

By order

His No. 604 of 8th Jan recommending for favorable consideration the prayer of Lakshmikanta Bhatta, one of the two Baravu Archaks of the Sri Chennakesavaswamy Temple @ Belur, to have his turn of the Puja performed by his son-in-law Srinivasa Bhatta during his absence

that the two Archaks.
may be directed to do
their duties by turns of
One year instead of.
by turns of one month
as @ present, just to
Save the trouble involved
by the Jewels & other Valuable
properties of the Temple,
Changing hands at very
Short intervals..

Has the Hon'ble
Rao Saheb Lakshmi-
Kanta Chatta's prayer
may be complied with
in Case of his executing
a Muchilika holding
himself responsible
for the proper per-
formance of the temple
duties by his Son-in-law
Srivanya Chatta, and
for the safe Custody

Gen. Serial No. 30.]

1896 2857

From

The Commissioner,
Hassan District

To

The ~~Chief~~ Secretary to the
Government ~~Dewan~~ *of Mysore.*
Museum Department
Bangalore.

Dated 19th
Despatched 20th } September 1896

Received 25/9

Enclosures No. V.P file.

General No.
No. 298

In reply to

SUBJECT.

Requesting sanction for erecting the proposed system of Annual Lamps of Archikshy of ash the Belur Sree Chennakeshava Temple into operation early

References (to be entered only in the Dewan's Office.)

To the cancelled 4478 29-9-96

No: 298

Dy Commissioners Office
Hassan District.
Dated, Hassan 19/21 September 96

From,

The Dy Commissioner,
Hassan District.

To,

The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Mysore and Department
Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to para 2
of your Docket No: 806 Dated 2d
February 1896, stating that the
monthly turns of Archikadship,
at the Belur Channakesavaswami
Temple, may be commuted into
annual turns if both the Archiks
are willing to accept the change,
I have the honor to state as fol-
lows:—

2 —— One of the Archaks Sampat-
-Kumarabhatta, readily consents
to the change and is indeed rather
for

for it: the other Lakshmi Kanta Bhatta objects thereto, alleging that under the present system of monthly turns, the Temple properties are subjected to the benefit of periodical inspection. - This is no real objection to the proposed arrangement, as we can always enforce frequent sending; and as Lakshmikant Bhatta alleges no inconvenience or unfairness peculiar to himself, and as in fact the proposed arrangement cannot produce any result to either of the Archaks, his objection has no force. At the same time, I do not think this is a matter in which we are bound to consult the persons concerned: we may make any arrangement that may be conducive to the better management of the Temple. -

3 —— There can be no doubt that

that Constant changes and hand-
ing over and taking charge afford
a fertile source of quarrel and
ill-feeling. As one out of numerous
instances, I submit, herewith, the
records relating to a very unseemly
fight between the two Archakas
within temple premises on the
occasion of the last Car festival.
The present arrangement of monthly
tours is also unsatisfactory
in that it leads to frequent and
troublesome references and com-
plaints.

4 ——— As regards the custody
of the Jewels, I have more than once
urged that an Iron safe with
two locks should be introduced,
one lock to be under the key of
the Archaka, the other under that
of the Amildar. So long as the pre-
sent unsatisfactory state of things
as regards their custody continues,

we

we must be in constant dread of troubles arising.—

5th —— I have, therefore, the honor to solicit sanction for bringing the proposed system of annual sums into early operation. The Vernacular papers are herewith submitted for reference.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant;

Jn: Dyde Logan Dr. Asst
Magistrate Dist.

MUZRAI.

189

From

The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore.

To

The Dy Coms:
Hassan

Dated 29th

Despatched Sept. 1896

Received

Enclosure No 1 file

General No. 447.
Muzrai F. No. 91 9

Yr no. 298 of 19th Sept. 96, requesting Sanctn. to Change have the worship in the Chenna Kesavaswamy Temple at Belur performed by the two Archaks of the Temple employed by turns of one year instead of, as one month as hitherto.

Has the nomn

of Muthiah Chetty
Sons, Co, Madras;
And pending its
receipt, the Dr
is requested to remove
all the Valuable Jewels of the
Temple from to the
Taluk Kutcherry
for safe Custody,
the daily decorating
of the deities being
made with flowers
& Tulasee
The Endorsees
Sereith returned:

Mur - Sec

to convey sanction of
Govt to the ~~proposed~~
Change proposed
in the above.
2. As regards the
Custody of the Valuable
Jewels belonging to
the Temple, the Dy.
is informed that
it is not safe to leave
them in charge of
the Archaks unless
they furnish Cash
or other adequate Security
for the responsibility
of the estimated cost
of the Jewels. An
Iron Safe with 2.
locks has, as suggested
by the Dy. been indented
for for the purpose

in his Docket
No 574 of 19th Dec.

Transferred to Mysore Departments
23-4-02

25/4/02

N. P.

Please put up the latest order passed on the subject.

Rs
30/4/02

Submitted

Under the Dewan's orders, Cmdt. no 152 dated 27th march 1902 already been issued declining to recognise the

190 29-4-1018

No. 2776

Name of Petitioner archak Somp Kumara Bhatta

Village Sri Cheluva Kesava temple at

Taluk Kasba Belur

District Hassan.

Date of Arzi 17.3.02

Date of Receipt 31-3-02

Date of Disposal

No. of Enclosure Nil

ABSTRACT

Praying for recognition of orders of Govt. Mr Mysore Deptt. dated 23d april 1901 no. 754 declining to interfere in the matter of the Petitioner removal from the Poojaship of the principal in the Temple of Sri Cheluva Kesava Swamy, Belur

24/4/02

31-3-1902

P.N. Krishna Murti Esqr. L.E
Dewan to His Highness the Mahe
Raja of Mysore

May it please your honor

Archak Sampath kumar Bhatta of
Sri Chennakeshavaswami Temple B Hosur Hasse
District humbly begs to submit a second appeal
on the endorsement Order No: 754 dated 23rd ap
1901 of Huzaroor Secretary extracts from which ar
quoted in the Margin with the humble explanation
of the undersigned.

Points of Complaints made by
the Deputy Commissioner against him
1) Sampath kumar Bhatta does
Poojas in the Minor shrines of the
Temple has been very indifferent in
the discharge of his duties.

In support of his having discha
his duties properly, your honor is
be pleased to refer to the docket No 45
dated 14th July 1899 written by the
Taluk Amildar and the Sub Divisional
officer of Sakleshpur to the address of
Deputy Commissioner and also the doc
of 5th Jan 1897, 8th Dec 1897, and 6th April
1897, from which it will be found that
he has been quite free from the blam
of the kind.

2) He absents himself from duty
frequently without leave

On account of serious illness he
had to apply to the Amildar for six
months leave on the 1st July 1897, whic
found up it to be true reported to the
Deputy Commissioner and got him
the required leave, Vide No 320 of 17th
1897 from the Deputy Commissioner.
Further he begs your honor will be

promised to refer also to the Order No; 34 dated 19th Dece 1897 of the District Muzarai officer and that of the Taluk Amildar No; 184 dated 3rd jan 1898 to the effect that his Nominee was a person fit

(3) The Temple Service might suffer by his being allowed to take his turn of Pooja in the Main Temple.

According to the Order No; 27 of 11th October 1859 of the late Chief Commissioner he had been discharging his duties to the entire Satisfaction of the Public, and especially of the three sects of Brahmins of any irregularity had been Noticed in his work these should have been found record either in the Taluq or in the District Muzarai office, the entire absence of which very strongly goes to prove that he has been attending to his duties — carefully and efficiently —

Without taking his explanation or the opinions of the Taluk Amildar or the District Muzarai officer the Deputy Commissioner has written to the Government on the strength of the direct report of the Dharmadarsis who are not for the following reasons, well disposed towards him, and the acceptance of which by the Muzarai Secretary has acted very prejudicially to him.

(1) Dharmadarsi Keshavadasa Iyengar who looks after the Management of the Temple is dead against him from the beginning.

(2) The said Keshavadas Iyengar is a great friend of Lakshmi Kantha Batta the father of the other Archik Keshava Bhatta in as much as he is indebted to the latter to a very large extent.

(3) That the Keshavadas Iyengar above preffered to, had got a Sheshavahana made for the God some 7 or 8 years back and as the work was less of the same did not correspond to usage it was objected to by the petitioner, and has demanding his Miras which was transferred to Lakshmikantha Bhatta by Keshavadas Iyengar, led to a report being made against him to Government. Ever since Keshavadas Iyengar has been charishing ill feelings against the petitioner —

(4) During the year 1875 Sri Keshavadas Iyengar was the agent of the said Temple. Owing to his unpopularity and a lot of complaints being made against him by the public he was dismissed.

(5) Keshavadas Iyengar being a very influential man and also being

one of the Temple pervants the other Dharmadhars who are only so in Name have pejued his report against the petitioner.

The losses the petitioner has sustained on account of his having been deprived of his turn of worship in the main Temple are many among which he begs to point out the following

(1) Loss of his hereditary right of pooja in the main Temple

(2) Loss of all perquisites during the Pooja offered by the devotees during their worship the kind of which he cannot look for in the worships of the smaller shrines except his pay.

Under these circumstances the petitioner humbly begs to submit that the facts mentioned in this petition may be taken into your honors consideration along with his petitions dated the 27th of July and 4th of Aug 1901, 9th Feb 1902 & 5th March 1902, respectively submitted to Government on the said dates.

Further he begs to add that copies of references bearing on the subject as noted below, have been submitted along with his petition dated 20th Aug 1901 to the Deputy ~~Commissioner~~ Secretary in charge of the Muzarai Department.

(1) Order of the Deputy Commissioner granting him leave for six months

(2) District Muzarai officer's No 348/69 dated 19th Dec 1897 approving the services of his substitute during his leave and recommending the high handedness of certain Temple pervants.

(3) Taluk Amildar's No 184 dated 3rd Feb 1898 granting an extension of leave to ~~other~~ petitioner on his former substitute Srinivas Bhatta.

(4) Muzarai Secretary's Order No: 1192 dated 9th March 1898 removing him entirely from the worship of the Main Temple on the recommendation of the Dharmadharshees through the Deputy Commissioner

(5) M.E. No 170 dated 18th Nov 1900 from the Sub Division

ffecer Sahibpur intimating the petitioner that
ll his petitions have been submitted to the Deputy
mmissioner
6) No; 754 dated 23rd April 1901 from the Secretary
lwzaroy Department intimating that the Governm
nds No grounds to interfere in the petitioner's case

In conclusion he humbly begs that the file
f correspondence bearing on the subject may be
ent for from the district office Hassan, and that
avourable orders in the shape of restoring the petitio
his ~~Gor~~ hereditary right of worship in the Maine Temp
any kindly be passed.

The humble petitioner begs (though he apply
-6 petitions) a favorable ~~reply~~ orders to his applica
in this time,

For which act of kindness the petitioner as
ever in duty bound, shall ever pray for your honor
long life and prosperity

He begs to remain
your honor's Most obedient & humble ser
~~Doo Honour~~
(Sd) Sampathkumar Batte

Dated 17th Mar 1902
Belur